

REMARKS

Claims 19-27 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-18 are canceled. Reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

Amendments are made to the specification to correct errors and to clarify the specification. No new matter is added by any of the amendments to the specification.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

The Office Action rejects claims 18-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter, which applicants regard as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action states:

In claim 18, and therefore its dependent claims, it is not entirely clear how the first switch connects the first memory to the other elements (see Figure 1, and note the amendment changing "memory controller" to – memory--).

Claim 18 is canceled. Claims 19, 22, and 23 are amended to include the limitations previously presented in claim 18 and to overcome the objection. Claims 19, 22, and 23 are amended to recite a first memory controller and that the switch connects the host adapter, the processor, the first memory controller, and the drive adapter, as previously presented in original claim 18. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claims 19-27 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

II. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter. Claims 19, 22, and 23 are amended to be in independent form and to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as recommended by the Examiner. Consequently, claims 19-27 are believed to be allowable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the amendments be entered and the application be passed to issue.

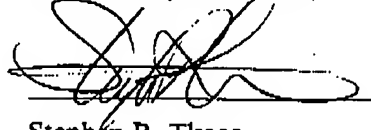
III. Conclusion

It is respectfully urged that the subject application is patentable over the prior art of record and is now in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number if in the opinion of the Examiner such a telephone conference would expedite or aid the prosecution and examination of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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